

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

*Managing the Medicaid program to provide
the best healthcare value for South Carolinians.*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GAPS Prescription Drug Coverage Enrollment Extended

Qualifying seniors with high prescription drug costs can still participate in a program that could save them thousands of dollars a year. The state-funded Gap Assistance Pharmacy Program for Seniors (GAPS) helps qualifying seniors by paying for 95 percent of drug expenditures between \$2,250 and \$5,100.

Under the new Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit, many seniors would otherwise be fully responsible for drug costs within the range of the so-called “the doughnut hole.” Qualified seniors signed up to one of the 11 drug plans that coordinate with the new GAPS program (see attached list) will have the majority of those costs covered.

The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently announced that seniors who want to participate in state assistance programs such as GAPS are allowed to switch plans or enroll in a plan for the first time without penalty. GAPS, administered by the Department of Health and Human Services and signed into law by Gov. Mark Sanford in February, replaces the former SILVERxCARD program. Both programs were designed to help seniors with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level or below (\$19,596 for individuals; \$26,400 for couples).

Please note: some low-income seniors may receive an even larger drug benefit through the federal government’s Extra Help program. Seniors are encouraged to call **1-800-772-1213** or visit www.socialsecurity.gov to first see if they qualify for Extra Help. As always, SC DHHS urges seniors to carefully choose a drug plan that best suits their individual needs. For more information, visit www.scdhhs.gov.

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Participating GAPS Plans

*The following private Medicare Part D drug plans participate in the GAPS program.
Please contact the plans to ensure you are qualified for GAPS coverage.*

PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS	Name of Plan	Phone Number
BlueCross BlueShield of SC (S5953)	MedBlue Rx (001)	1-888-645-6025
BlueCross BlueShield of SC (S5953)	MedBlue Rx Plus (002)	1-888-645-6025
Community Care Rx [Member Health, Inc.] (S5803)	Community Care Rx Basic (078)	1-888-868-5854
Community Care Rx [Member Health, Inc.] (S5803)	Community Care Rx Choice (146)	1-888-868-5854
Community Care Rx [Member Health, Inc.] (S5803)	Community Care Rx Gold (112)	1-888-868-5854
First Health Life and Insurance Company (S5768)	First Health Premier (012)	1-800-588-3322
InStil Health Insurance Company (S5946)	InStil Rx (001)	1-877-446-7845
InStil Health Insurance Company (S5946)	InStil Rx Plus (003)	1-877-446-7845
WellCare (S5967)	WellCare Signature (043)	1-888-481-5252
WellCare (S5967)	WellCare Complete (077)	1-888-481-5252
WellCare (S5967)	WellCare Premier (112)	1-888-481-5252